

REMARKS

Claims 6 and 8-16 are now pending in this application. Claims 1-5, 7 and 17-25 have been canceled by this amendment. Each of the pending claims is believed to define an invention which is novel and unobvious over the cited references. Favorable reconsideration of this case is respectfully requested.

Claim 1-6, 12-16, 18-25 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Number 4,737,950 to Fechalos in view of U.S. Patent Number 5,809,024 to Ferguson et al. in view of U.S. Patent Number 5,737,333 to Civanlar.

Claims 1-5 and 18-25 have been canceled. Claim 6 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of allowable claim 7. Claim 12 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of allowable claim 17. Claims 13-16 depended from now allowable claim 12. Accordingly, each of the rejected claims has been canceled or rewritten to include subject matter of allowable claims. Therefore, this prior art rejection is moot.

Claims 7-9 and 17 have been objected to as being dependent on a rejected base claim but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Allowable claim 7 has been incorporated into independent claim 6, its base claim. Claims 8 and 9 have been amended to incorporate the subject matter of claim 1, their base claim. Claim 12 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of allowable claim 17. Claims 10-11 have been allowed. Claims 13-16 depend from now allowable claim 12. The remaining

claims have been canceled. Accordingly, each of the pending claims is now in allowable form.

Accordingly, early issuance of a Notice of Allowance is respectfully solicited.

In view of the above discussion, it is clear that the cited references do not teach or suggest the claimed invention. Therefore, the withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner is of the opinion that the prosecution of this application would be advanced by a personal interview, the Examiner is invited to telephone undersigned counsel to arrange for such an interview.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fee necessitated by this Amendment to our Deposit Account No. 22-0261.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date



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